

DUNEDIN METHODIST PARISH

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz



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PARISH BULLETIN

22 March 2020

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 29 March 2020

9.30am	Mornington	
10.00am	Mosgiel	
11.00am	Glenaven	
1.00pm	St Kilda	TBA

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed 25 March	2.00 pm	Womens Fellowship Lounge, Mornington Ch
Fri 10 April	8.45 am	Taieri Walk of the Cross, St Lukes

COVID 19 PANDEMIC

THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC IS FAST MOVING AND WHAT IS REQUIRED OF US BOTH IN TERMS OF REDUCING THE RISK OF TRANSMISSION AND BY GOVERNMENT DIRECTIVE MAY CHANGE QUICKLY. ALL SCHEDULED SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS ARE PROVISIONAL FROM NOW UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS MY HOPE THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO WORSHIP SUNDAY BY SUNDAY. THIS MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE HOWEVER. ASSUME SCHEDULED EVENTS WILL HAPPEN, IF WE HAVE TO CANCEL YOU WILL BE CONTACTED.

In the days ahead people will be faced choosing to self-isolate as a way of protecting their health and of "flattening the curve" if you enter into self-isolation could you please advise me so we can maintain contact with you and keep you in our prayers

COMBINED ECUMENICAL SERVICE 29 MARCH CANCELLED

The decision has been taken to cancel the usual combined ecumenical service on **Sunday afternoon, 29 March**. A decision has not yet been made about Good Friday combined services and the associated Easter procession of the Cross, since circumstances may yet change further.

EXPLORERS AND OPEN EDUCATION CANCELLATIONS

In view of the spread of the current pandemic, the Explorers' meeting planned for this Sunday, and all following meetings, are deferred until further notice. Likewise, there will be no further Open Education meetings until these circumstances change.

MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Wednesday 25th March 2020 at 2pm in the Church lounge. All men and women are invited to join with us to hear Robyn Abernethy speak on Gardens on the East coast of America. If you are interested in singing, travel, art or gardening this is for you. Please remember our Fellowship of the least coin appeal.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 10th April 2020

Taieri Walk of the Cross,
Good Friday at 8:45am.



The walk starts at St. Luke's walking to Anzac Park, then to the corner of Factory and Gordon Roads before heading to the Memorial Park car park. After that we walk onward to the Presbyterian Church in Church Street before finishing up at St. Mary's for our Good Friday Service at 10.00am.

Please feel free to join at any stage. The service will be followed by hot cross buns and a cuppa. Please join us.

Dr Mai Tamimi gave an excellent talk entitled "From Damascus to Dunedin" to 20 or so people at Mornington Methodist Church last Wednesday evening.

She shared how the former Syrian refugee community is settling in (or not) to life here in Dunedin. Many examples were given. Some families are settling in relatively well. Others are not. Relationships within families, culture-clashes and insufficient finance create challenges for many. Mai has recently been appointed as Community Advisor with the Dunedin City Council.

She values her friendship with us greatly, just as we greatly value and appreciate our ongoing contact with her. Thank you to Colin Gibson for organising this event which is the last Open Education event until further notice, due to Covid 19.



THE BOY, THE MOLE AND THE FOX

Here is a modern fable for the times. Think about it.

'What is that over there?' asked the Boy. 'It's the Wild,' said the Mole. 'Don't fear it. Just imagine how we would be if we were less afraid.' Then the Boy and the Mole came across a Fox caught in a snare. 'I'm not afraid of you,' the Mole told the Fox. 'If I wasn't caught in this snare I would kill you,' said the Fox. 'If you stay caught in that snare you will die,' said the Mole. 'One of our greatest freedoms is how we react to things,' said the Mole to the Boy. Then the Mole chewed through the wire with his tiny teeth.

Colin Gibson

AN OLIVE TREE was planted in the lawn behind Mornington Church last Sunday as a symbol of our solemn remembrance of the tragic Mosque shootings exactly a year before in Christchurch. It is hard to imagine a more suitable memorial, especially considering that most of New Zealand's recent influx of refugees - among whom make up a significant number of mosque attendees, Syria, Iraq, etc - come from countries where the olive tree has held special significance from time immemorial.



To learn in some detail of that significance google *olive tree biblical*, and click on the article "*The Biblical Mystery of the Olive Tree*" by William F Dankenbring and many other articles under the same heading.

Photo courtesy Greg

Hughson shows Kirstie and her sister Lilly (from PNG) with Paul Gourlie and Greg beside the newly planted tree. *Note* - Kirstie was given the honour of "planting" the tree.